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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 121

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Kim Oliver Hawks on her receipt of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks is one such estimable educator; she has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hawks has recently been selected by the Milken Family Foundation as a recipient of their National Educator Award, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, the award includes public recognition, an unrestricted \$25,000 financial award, and the opportunity to attend the Milken National Education Conference in Los Angeles, California; and

WHEREAS, the Milken Educator Awards were conceived in 1985 and have since been bestowed upon 1,657 outstanding educators in forty-three states; and

WHEREAS, as stated by Lowell Milken, chairman of the Milken Family Foundation, "By choosing to practice in the most noble and important profession there is, and by doing it with

such excellence, each Milken Educator is making a lasting contribution to young people's minds, imaginations and character"; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks received her bachelor of science in elementary education from Freed-Hardeman College, in Henderson, in 1983, and she is currently pursuing a master's degree at the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks began her exemplary career as an educator at Palmetto Christian Schools, in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1984; and

WHEREAS, she taught first grade at Remount Road Elementary School, also in Charleston, from 1988 through 1990; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hawks began working for Lake County schools in 1990 when she went to work at Lara Kendall School, in Ridgely, as a fifth-grade teacher; and

WHEREAS, she has now been teaching in her current position, first-grade teacher at Margaret Newton Elementary School, in Tiptonville, for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks holds membership in the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, the International Reading Association, the National Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, and the Lake County Education Association; and

WHEREAS, she served as president of the Lake County Education Association from 1993 through 1994, and she was a delegate to the Tennessee Education Association's Representative Assembly for 1991 through 1993; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks has participated in numerous professional development leadership activities; to name only a few, she has served as a consultant for the annual UTM Math Conferences, as coordinator of the Lake County Teacher Resource Center, and on the Title I Restructuring Committee; and

WHEREAS, she currently serves as an independent math and literacy consultant, a consultant for the Education Extravaganza, a member of the national faculty of the Delta

Teachers Academy, a consultant for Everyday Mathematics, and a consultant for the Writing Project; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hawks was the Remount Road Elementary School Teacher of the Year for 1990, and she was named the Margaret Newton Elementary School Teacher of the year in both 1997 and 2000; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks is an active and devout member of the Tiptonville Church of Christ, where she has taught a Sunday school class for six years and for the church's Vacation Bible School during the summers; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, as she so eloquently put it, "all children can learn in an atmosphere of security and acceptance"; Ms. Hawk valiantly accepts the task of creating such an environment, and she excels at fulfilling that task; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hawks truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel is highly valued by those who are fortunate enough to know her; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hawks truly epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Kim Oliver Hawks on being chosen as a recipient of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.